Scott.M. Matheson Governor



DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING

MEMORANDUM TO:

Associate Deputy Director of Health

FROM:

Dale D. Parker, Ph.D., Director

Bureau of Solid Waste Management

SUBJECT:

Getty Gold Mine, Mercur, Utah

The plans for the disposal of hazardous wastes and solid wastes have been reviewed and the following comments are offered:

- The Getty proposal states that "combustible solid wastes will be managed by open burning under a permit to be applied for separately from the Bureau of Air Quality." Open burning at landfill sites is prohibited by the Utah Code of Solid Waste Disposal Regulations and also by State Air Quality regulations.
- Development of a sanitary landfill site should precede generation of solid wastes. All landfill sites must receive approval prior to construction.
- The State hazardous waste regulations do exclude mining and mineral processing wastes. However, this exclusion does not apply to solid wastes, such as spent solvents, pesticide wastes, and discarded commercial chemical products that are not uniquely associated with mining and allied processing operations. Therefore, should the industry generate any of these non-indigenous wastes and the waste is identified or listed in the state regulations, the waste is hazardous and must be so managed. Also, as stated in your plan, the exempted wastes must also be handled in a manner that it will not constitute a threat to health or the environment.

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